

**BSAS Annual Meeting 20-22 March 2000
WPSA Annual Meeting 22-24 March 2000**

BSAS Annual Meeting 20-22 March

Scarborough Programme

Remember the deadline for cheaper applications is the end of February!

The invited sessions

The Hammond will be given by Professor Michel Georges from the University of Liège in Belgium on *Livestock genomics: friend or foe?*

The Presidents session will address the issue *Can production problems be solved by breeding?* It will be in two parts and cover *disease resistance* and *breeding in the tropics*

Invited technical sessions will include:

- ◆ *Semen sexing*
- ◆ *GMO's*
- ◆ *What do people want from animal science?*
- ◆ This year's farmer session will cover *Improving meat quality from farm to plate.*

Submitted theatre sessions will include:

Ruminant Intake, Pigs, Dairy Cows, Sheep, In vitro-techniques, Breeding & Genetics and Ethology & Welfare.

Submitted poster sessions will include

Beef & Dairy Cattle, Sheep, Mineral Nutrition, Ruminant Nutrition, Pigs, Environment & Ethology, Dairy Cow Intake, Milk Composition

There will also be poster discussion sessions on *In vitro-techniques, Pigs, Cattle Genetics and Sheep Genetics.*

*CPD - Continuing Professional Development
There will be a short presentation on this for
animal scientists on Wednesday morning.*

Summer Placement Scheme 2000

BSAS has eight summer placements available for 2000. Each placement will attract the sum of £500 from BSAS, which is matched by a participating company or academic/research organisation. Students undertake a piece of research lasting six to eight weeks. This can be part of a larger programme but students must be able to complete a coherent piece of work in the time period.

If you are interested in participating as an organisation offering a research project or as a student wishing to experience research please contact BSAS as soon as possible.

EAAP 2000, 51st Annual Meeting

(Scientific programme with this newsletter)

If you wish to submit a paper to the EAAP meeting in the Hague 21st-24th August you must send an abstract form (available from www.WageningenPers.nl/eaap/eaap2000) to EAAP2000@WageningenPers.nl by 1st March 2000.

The first 100 PhD students to submit papers will be able to apply for a 50% reduction in registration fees.

There is also a series of training courses for PhD students in the week before EAAP. These will cover topics including genetics, pig reproductive physiology, animal health economics and modelling for feed evaluation.

The Website address for EAAP 51st Annual Meeting is eaap2000.wau.nl or go via the links on the BSAS website. *Please note there is no BSAS travel package for Holland this year.*

Annual General Meeting, 17:15 hrs, 22 March 2000, Spa Complex, Scarborough

Please come to the AGM and influence how the Society is run. The AGM papers for the meeting are enclosed in this newsletter. Please read them - CPD, nutrients, finance and our move to York will all be discussed. If you cannot make the AGM pass your views on to any members of Council listed below.

New council members wanted!

Council need four new members to join at the 2000 AGM. If you know someone who would make a good Council member we would be very pleased to hear from you. Members normally serve for three years and may also join one of the standing committees. We require a name, proposer and seconder who are all BSAS members. One supporter must attend the AGM to introduce you. Nominations must be with the BSAS Office seven days before the AGMcall now!!

Our present Council is:

President	Professor W G Hill
Senior Vice-President	Professor J D Wood
Junior Vice-President	Dr J A Milne
Hon-Treasurer (acting)	Professor W G Hill
Secretary	Mr M A Steele
EAAP Liaison Officer	Dr P C Garnsworthy
IOB Representative	Dr J K Margerison
Programme Committee Chairman	Dr P H Simmins
Technical & Ethical Committee Chairman	Professor Geoff Simm
Publications Committee Chairman	Professor J C MacRae

Council Members: Elected 1997 (stepping down 2000)

Dr M G Diskin
Dr B McGuirk
Dr J R Scaife
Dr C L Thorp

Elected 1998

Dr A F Carson
Dr A J Duncan
Dr J K Margerison
Dr C K Reynolds

Elected 1999

Dr R E Agnew
Mr M W Lemmey
Professor M A Lomax
Dr K D Sinclair

Council is recommending that:

Professor Jeff Wood becomes President
Dr John Milne becomes Senior Vice-President
Professor Emyr Owen becomes Junior Vice-President
Dr Brian Cooke becomes Honorary Treasurer
Mr Mike Steele remains as Secretary

Professor David Armstrong, B Sc, M Sc, Ph D, FRIC, FI Biol, FRSE

Members will be saddened to learn of the death of David Armstrong on 8th February 2000 at the age of 73. David gained his Ph D from Durham University and then held a lectureship at the Department of Agricultural Chemistry at King's College Newcastle, University of Durham before moving to the Hannah Research Institute in 1954 following a year at the University of Illinois. At the Hannah he became well known for his work on energy metabolism of ruminants, in particular investigations into the efficiency of utilisation of volatile fatty acids. David returned to what was by then the University of Newcastle in 1963, first as Reader and then to a personal Chair in the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry and Nutrition, a position he held until his retirement in 1991. There he developed techniques to study quantitative digestion and metabolism in ruminants and established a world-wide reputation for himself and his Department. David was also well known to the wider academic community through his many appointments to University, Research Institute, Government and Industry Advisory Bodies. Amongst his many awards was the Hammond Prize from the Society in 1968 and his Honorary Membership of the Society in 1992. David will be sadly missed by his many ex-students and scientific colleagues, both nationally and internationally, as well as by his wife, Susan, and their children Neil and Helen.

Professor John H Topps BSc, PhD, DSc, FRSC

We were also saddened to hear of the sudden death of Professor John Topps on 8 January 2000, aged 70 years. John was a Hampshire man by birth and was brought up on a small, mixed farm close to Portsmouth. A graduate of the University of London, with both BSc and PhD degrees. John worked in Essex (Writtle Agricultural College), Rhodesia (University of Rhodesia), Aberdeen (School of Agriculture and Department of Agriculture, University of Aberdeen) and Zimbabwe (University of Zimbabwe). His main research interest was livestock nutrition, with emphasis on ruminant animals, but he was also equally concerned with livestock production in developing countries. John's other interests were sporting activities, gardening and African history.

News on the Committees

Technical and Ethical Committee

This committee recently decided on the recipients for scholarships in 2000.

The Braude Travel Scholarship has been awarded to Helen Edge, University of Newcastle to travel to the Netherlands, Belgium and Poland to study the effect of the physical form of the diet on voluntary feed intake in weaned pigs.

The Sir Kenneth Blaxter Award has been given to Caroline Rymer, ADAS, to visit the US Dairy Forage Center, Wisconsin, USA to study the means of measuring fresh feeds particle size.

The Alan Robertson was not awarded this year. The winners of the Sir John Hammond Memorial and RSPCA/ BSAS Welfare awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting in Scarborough in March.

Publications Committee

A new team of editors has been put in place following the retirement of Tony Lawrence as Senior Editor. A list is given below for your information. The new editorial team is led by Ian Lean with Hilary Davies in charge of the technical side. Everybody has been working hard to get the journal out on time as well as trying to improve its overall quality. If you have not noticed any differences in appearance or delivery dates then the new team have succeeded over a difficult transitional period.

EDITORS (* section leaders)

Breeding & genetics

J Jensen, DIAS, Foulum, Denmark

H H Swalve, RIBFA, Germany

P M Visscher, University of Edinburgh, UK *

Growth, development and meat science

M V Dodson, Washington State University, USA *

H Freetly, USDA, Clay Center, Nebraska, USA

R Hill, Queensland Beef Industry Institute, Australia

K Hossner, Colorado State University, USA

C A Maltin, Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen, UK

P Mir, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Lethbridge, Canada

P D Warriss, University of Bristol, UK

Non-ruminant nutrition, behaviour and production

J E L Day, ADAS Tarrington, UK

I J Lean, Wye College, University of London, UK *

P A Lee, ADAS Tarrington, UK

C A Morgan, SAC, Edinburgh, UK

P J Moughan, Massey University, New Zealand

J W G M Swinkels, RIAH, Lelystad, The Netherlands

Reproduction

M P Boland, University College Dublin, Ireland *

M Diskin, Teagasc, Co. Galway, Ireland

R E Short, US Dept of Agric, Montana, USA

Ruminant nutrition, behaviour and production

M J Bryant, University of Reading, UK

C S Mayne, ARINI, Hillsborough, UK

J R Newbold, Provimi Research & Tech. Centre, Belgium

J D Oldham, SAC, Edinburgh UK *

T T Treacher, Oxford, UK

Impact Factor Rockets!

On the quality side we are pleased to announce that the impact factor of the journal has now reached 1.373 in a recent citation index which placed *Animal Science* 7th in a list of 60 journals. This is very encouraging and a situation that the editors would like to build on.

You Can Help!

The editorial team are keen to further improve the standard of papers sent to the Journal. This is where you can help. Too many manuscript are too long and others would benefit from being read through by a colleague before being dispatched! This would help take out some of the simpler deviations from good English, spelling and repetitions that the (Americanised?) spell check doesn't always get correct!

The Journal is very keen to recruit more referees to spread the load. If you are interested in contributing to the journal by working with editors in your area of interest then please get in touch.

Programme Committee

A sea change is possible over the scrutinizing of summaries for the Annual Meeting.

Following guidance from the Council meeting in January the Programme Committee will at its May meeting be discussing a 'lighter' touch to the process of assessing summaries for the Annual Meetings from 2001. The committee are likely to make authors responsible for the standard of papers as long as they are above an acceptable minimal scientific level. This would be in line with the approach adopted to submitted papers at occasional meetings. Council concluded that encouraging authors to submit their research was ultimately more important than trying to push the quality towards that of the journal.

BSAS Subscriptions

Invoices have been sent out to members who do not pay their subscriptions by Direct Debit. If you would prefer to pay by this method please contact the office for a mandate.

BSAS MEETINGS - details of all meetings on the BSAS Web site www.bsas.org.uk

- 17 May 2000
Bristol
- 3rd Annual Langford Food Industry Conference**
BSAS will be sponsoring the 2000 conference along with Bristol University. Tel: 0117 928 9502
Fax: 01934 852 170. e-mail: rita.hinton@bristol.ac.uk (see leaflet enclosed).
- 18/19 August 2000
The Netherlands
- Workshop - Gas Production: Fermentation kinetics for feed evaluation and to assess microbial activity,**
A joint BSAS/Wageningen Agricultural University meeting. This is a follow-up to the Reading meeting in 1997. The workshop will be held at the WICC in Wageningen, The Netherlands on the Friday/Saturday before the EAAP meeting in The Hague in 2000. If you are interested in more details on the programme then please contact any of the following: Eddie Deaville email: eddie.deaville@adas.co.uk Barbara Williams barbara.williams@alg.vv.wau.nl or John Cone j.w.cone@id.dlo.nl
- 5-7 September 2000
Nottingham
- The Weaner Pig: Its Nutrition and Management**
To be held at the conveniently situated Sutton Bonington Campus, University of Nottingham. The invited papers from this meeting will be published as a CABI/BSAS book in 2001. Contact Mike Varley Email: mvarley@scanutrition.com or Julian Wiseman email: julian.wiseman@Nottingham.ac.uk if you are interested in submitting a paper.
- April 2001
York
- Improving the Quality of Livestock Products** is the theme for Professor Jeff Wood's Presidential year 2000/2001. There will be a satellite symposium on this topic at the Annual Meeting in 2001 when BSAS goes to York for the first time. (*Contact Jeff Wood with your thoughts on Tel: 0117928 9293*)
- 18-20 September 2000
Aberdeen
- Early regulation of mammalian development**
Ardoe House Hotel & Conference Centre, Aberdeen. This conference will bring together animal scientists and those in medical research to discuss state of the art science with world authorities in their own field. (see separate leaflet) Contact Kevin Sinclair email: k.sinclair@ab.sac.ac.uk for further information.
- September 2001
Cambridge
- Sept 2001 - Engineering for Livestock Production**
A joint BSAS/Institute of Agricultural Engineering meeting which focuses on sustainable production of livestock using integrated management systems to monitor and control the main production processes. It will deal comprehensively with both biological knowledge and engineering technology needed for successful production to ensure a high quality product, efficiently produced with minimum environmental cost. Christopher Wathes at Silsoe is organising this meeting and would be happy to receive comments or suggestions on Tel: 01525 860000.
- October 2001
Greece
- Organic Meat & Milk Production from Ruminants**
BSAS and the Hellenic Society of Animal Production have now agreed to run a joint meeting in September/October 2001 in Athens on Organic Production from Ruminants. This will take the form of eight invited keynote papers as well as submitted theatre and poster papers, discussions and workshops. The keynote papers will include :
- The future of the European market for organic produce - opportunities and challenges.
 - Standards, regulations & legislation.
 - Animal health issues.
 - Human health; the quality and health implications for organic production.
 - The impact of organic agriculture on socio-economic structures.
 - The development of suitable farming systems
 - Marketing and consumer awareness.
- The meeting will be held at a dedicated conference centre in Athens with a Thursday-Friday programme and an optional visit to Delphi (Greek cultural visit) on the Saturday. Athens is an easy venue to reach from most other European cities, as well as being very friendly and attractive. EAAP is supporting this meeting. If you are interested in getting involved or have some thoughts on papers or topics then we would like to hear from you. Contact BSAS Office.
- Early 2003
Mexico
- Responding to the Increasing Global Demand for Animal Products**
The UK organising team for this meeting is chaired by David Leaver from Wye/Imperial. It will be held with the University of Merida, Mexico. The ASAS are also involved, so that expertise from several continents can be brought together.

Other interesting meetings

- 29 Feb-2 March 2000 **BGS Conference, Grazing Management.** Grazing for profit and environmental gain. Cairn Hotel, Harrogate. Contact British Grassland Society, No 1 Earley Gate, University of Reading, Reading, Berks RG6 6AT. Tel: 01189 318189, Fax: 01189 666941
- 14-19 May 2000 **ICAR/Interbull Meetings, Slovenia.** Details from ICAR Secretary, Groblje3, 1230 Domzale, Slovenia. E-mail Marija.Klopčič@bfro.uni-lj.si
- 17-20 August 2000 **IAATH - The International Alliance for Animal Therapy and Healing** is organizing its first conference to be held at Washington State University Vancouver, WA on August 17th - 20th, 2000. This is an open call for papers. Proposals will be considered from all members of the Animal Therapy and Healing Community. Contact : Penny Ramey, Extension Livestock Advisor Program, WSU Cooperative Extension 11104 NE 149th Street C100, Brush Prairie WA 98606 (360) 254-8436 Email: ramey@coopext.cahe.wsu.edu
- 27 Sept 2000 **Stoneleigh, Warkwickshire, RASE. A follow up to 'The challenge of genetic change in animal production'.** BSAS is helping RASE with a one day seminar that will consider technical aspects of breeding objectives for poultry, milk, beef and lamb. Workshops will attempt to formulate breeding objectives for each species. By invitation only. If you are interested in participating contact Alan Spedding at RASE, Tel: 01203 696969, Fax: 01203 696900
- 28 October 2000 **International Symposium - Prospects for a sustainable dairy sector in the mediterranean,** Hammamet, Tunisia. Call for papers. Details from symposium secretariat, Mon M Guellouz, Office de l'Élevage et des Paturages, 30 Rue Alain Saxory - 1002 Tunis, Tunisie. Email: DG.OEPC@Email.ati.tn
- 6-9 November 2000 **Conference of Egyptian Society of Animal Production, Alexandria.** Theme is *Optimising the Utilization of Animal production Resources in Africa*. Topic areas include evaluation of animal production resources, utilization of resources, livestock/environment interactions. Papers requested by 1 March. Details from ESAP, Dept of Animal Production, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University 12613 Giza, Egypt. Email: esap@asunet.shams.eun.eg
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Books

Manipulating Pig Production VII, the Proceedings of the VIIth Biennial Conference of the Australasian Pig Science Association held in Adelaide, South Australia 28 November-1 December 1999. Details of how to order can be found on the APSA Home Page <http://www.prdc.com.au/apsa>

Employment/Scholarships

If you would like to advertise jobs/postions, scholarshps or PhD opportunities the BSAS webstie offers FREE advertising space!

